



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/560,220

12/09/2005

Yun Kyung Lee

CU-4590 WWP

2686

26530 7590 09/02/2008

LADAS & PARRY LLP
224 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
SUITE 1600
CHICAGO, IL 60604

EXAMINER

SIMS, JING F

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

4148

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/02/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/560,220	Applicant(s) LEE ET AL.	
	Examiner JING SIMS	Art Unit 4148	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9 December, 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3 and 5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 9 December 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The instant application having Application No. 10560220 filed on December 9, 2005 is presented for examination by the examiner.

Oath/Declaration

2. The applicant's oath/declaration has been reviewed by the examiner and is found to conform to the requirements prescribed in **37 C.F.R. 1.63**.

Priority

3. As required by **M.P.E.P. 201.14(c)**, acknowledgement is made of applicant's claim for priority based on applications filed on June 16, 2003 (Republic of Korea 10-2003-0038892).

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

4. The applicant's drawings submitted are acceptable for examination purposes.

Specification

5. The specification is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 9, paragraph 19, line 2, the term "a second embodiment" appears to be "a third embodiment" instead.

On page 16, paragraph 76, line 4, the term “the round key generation unit 100” appears to be “the round key generation unit 110” instead.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

6. Claim 1 objected to because of the following informalities: on page 50, line 6, the term “at lease” appears to be "at least".

Claim 3 objected to because of the following informalities: on page 50, line 26, the term “at lease” appears to be "at least".

Claim 5 objected to because of the following informalities: on page 51, line 13, the term “at lease” appears to be "at least".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. Claims 1, 3, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 3, and 5 recites the limitation "n" in the claims, however, “n” is not defined either in specification nor claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yang (US 2002/0131588), in view of Roussel et. al. (US 6230257) (hereinafter Roussel).

As per **claim 1**, Yang discloses “A rijndael block encryption apparatus having M-bit input data and N-bit input keys” (page 1, column 2, paragraph 0010, “an apparatus for encrypting/decrypting a real-time input stream”. With respect to the limitations of input data and input keys, in Fig. 1 Data_in [7:0] appears to be the input data and Key_data [128,192,256] appear to be the inputs keys) “and encrypting the M-bit input data by repeating for a predetermined number of times a round operation” (page 3, column 1, paragraph 0043, with respect to this limitation, Yang discloses “if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 256 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘14’” “if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 128 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘10’”) “that includes transforms of shift_row, substitution, mixcolumn and add-round-key” (Fig. 4 discloses “Shifter (Shift_row)”, “Data conversion unit (Byte_sub)”, “Mixer (Mix_colm)”, and “Key mixer (Add_round_key)”) “the apparatus comprising: a round operation unit including a round operation execution unit for processing the data at least in the transforms of substitution, mixcolumn and add-round-key” (page 3, column 2, paragraph 0048, “Fig. 4 illustrates a detailed block diagram of

Art Unit: 4148

an encryption unit of 'the block round unit' 203 in Fig. 2". Fig. 4 illustrates the transforms of "Shifter (Shift_row)", "Data conversion unit (Byte_sub)", "Mixer (Mix_colm)", and "Key mixer (Add_round_key))" and a round key generation unit for generating round keys in order to provide the round keys in the transform of the add-round-key; a round operation control unit for controlling the round operation performed by the round operation unit" (page 1, paragraph 0013, "a key schedule unit carrying out a key schedule every round in accordance with a size and a key value of a block inputted from outside so as to output a key value for the encryption or decryption each round") "and a data storage unit for storing M-bit data generated at an end stage of every round." (Page 4, column 1, paragraph 0057, "an output buffer 603 receiving the encrypted or decrypted data Out_block [127:0]").

Yang fails to disclose "processing the data in the unit of M/m bits (where m is 2, 3 or 4)" and "a data storage unit for storing M/n-bit intermediate data generated by the round operation unit at an intermediate stage of every round".

However, Roussel discloses "processing the data in the unit of M/m bits" (column 12, line 1-9, "processing 128-bit instructions using existing 64-bit hardware systems without significant changes to the hardware") "Where m is 2, 3 or 4" (column 11, line 23-48, "although the above embodiment describes the macro instruction being divided into two micro operations, alternate embodiments may divide the macro instruction into more micro instruction") and "Storing M/n-bit intermediate data generated by the round operation unit at an intermediate stage of every round" (Fig. 4, a register is an intermediate storage unit, therefore, data conversion unit, shifter, mixer, key mixer are registers. Four of the registers process the input data at the same time stores data temporarily).

Yang and Roussel are analogous art because both arts focus on the goal of reusing the existing hardware resource to reduce the size and cost of the hardware when come to design circuits.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to apply the Rijndael block cipher algorithm that encrypt/decrypt information on a hardware-critical environment to process 128-bit instruction application using 64-bit hardware system teaching of Yang by adopting the concept "staggering execution of a single packed data instruction using the same circuit" from Roussel to utilize the existing hardware resource, reduce the size and cost of hardware.

As per **claim 2**, Yang discloses "The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data storage unit includes at least one register, and a total summed size of the register is equal to or larger than $M(2^m-1)/m$ bits" (Fig. 5 and Fig. 6, registers are intermediate storage units, therefore, examiner considers unit 500 in Fig. 5 is a storage unit, unit 603 in Fig. 6 is the other storage unit. There are two set of storage units, which includes four individual registers in unit 500 in Fig. 5 of total 508 bits - 127 bit multiplies 4, plus the "out_buffer" storage in Fig. 6 of 127 bit. The total summed sized of the register is 635 bit. As applicant states in claim 1 "where m is 2, 3, or 4", if m is 2, M the input data in Yang is 127 bit, then $M(2^m-1)/m$ is $127(2^2-1)/2$ that equals 190.5 bits. The total summed sized of the registers in Yang of 635 bit is large than the 190.5 bit).

As per **claim 3**, Yang discloses "A rijndael block decryption apparatus having M-bit input data and N-bit input keys" (page 1, column 2, paragraph 0010, "an apparatus for encrypting/decrypting a real-time input stream" "by constructing Rijndael algorithm selected as

Art Unit: 4148

AES algorithm with hardware”. With respect to the limitations of input data and input keys, in Fig. 1 Data_in [7:0] appears to be the input data and Key_data [128,192,256] appear to be the inputs keys) “and decrypting the M-bit input data by repeating for a predetermined number of times a round operation” (page 3, column 1, paragraph 0043, with respect to this limitation, Yang discloses “decrypting” by “finding the key for encryption or decryption”. Yang also discloses “if the block size is 128bits and a size of the key value is 256 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘14’” “if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 128 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘10’”) “that includes transforms of inverse shift_row, inverse substitution, add-round-key and inverse mixcolumn” (Fig. 5 discloses transforms of “I_shift_row”, “I_byte_sub”, “Add_round_key”, and “I_mix_colm”) “the apparatus comprising: a round operation unit including a round operation execution unit for processing the data at least in the transforms of inverse substitution, add-round-key and inverse mixcolumn” (page 3, column 2, paragraph 0048, “Fig. 4 illustrates a detailed block diagram of an encryption unit of ‘the block round unit’ 203 in Fig. 2”. Fig. 4 illustrates the transforms of “Shifter (Shift_row)”, “Data conversion unit (Byte_sub)”, “Mixer (Mix_colm)”, and “Key mixer (Add_round_key)”. Yang also discloses “if the decryption is being carried out, the encryption in Fig. 4 is carried out in reverse. The reverse process is shown in Fig. 5”) “and a round key generation unit for generating round keys in order to provide the round keys in the transform of add-round-key; a round operation control unit for controlling the round operation performed by the round operation unit” (page 1, paragraph 0013, “a key schedule unit carrying out a key schedule every round in accordance with a size and a key value of a block inputted from outside so as to output a key value for the encryption or decryption each

Art Unit: 4148

round”) “and a data storage unit for storing M-bit data generated at an end stage of every round” (the rejection of the corresponding section in claim 1 also applies here in claim 2).

Yang fails to disclose “processing the data in the unit of M/m bits (where m is 2, 3 or 4)” and “data storage unit for storing M/n-bit intermediate data generated by the round operation unit at an intermediate stage of every round”.

However, Roussel discloses “processing the data in the unit of M/m bits” (column 12, line 1-9, “processing 128-bit instructions using existing 64-bit hardware systems without significant changes to the hardware”) “Where m is 2, 3 or 4” (column 11, line 23-48, “although the above embodiment describes the macro instruction being divided into two micro operations, alternate embodiments may divide the macro instruction into more micro instruction”)

Yang and Roussel are analogous art because both arts focus on the goal of reusing the existing hardware resource to reduce the size and cost of the hardware when come to design circuits.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to apply the Rijndael block cipher algorithm that encrypt/decrypt information on a hardware-critical environment to process 128-bit instruction application using 64-bit hardware system teaching of Yang by adopting the concept “staggering execution of a single packed data instruction using the same circuit” from Roussel to utilize the existing hardware resource, reduce the size and cost of hardware.

As per **claim 4**, Yang discloses “the apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the data storage unit includes at least one register, and a total summed size of the register is equal to or larger than $M(2^m-1)/m$ bits” (Fig. 5 and Fig. 6, registers are intermediate

Art Unit: 4148

storage units, therefore, there are four registers in Fig. 5 of total 508 bits - 127 bit multiplies 4, plus the "out_buffer" storage in Fig. 6 of 127 bit. The total summed sized of the register is 635 bit. As applicant states in claim 1 "where m is 2, 3, or 4", if m is 2, M the input data in Yang is 127 bit, then $M(2^m-1)/m$ is $127(2^2-1)/2$ that equals 190.5 bits. The total summed sized of the registers in Yang of 635 bit is large than the 190.5 bit).

As per **claim 5**, Yang discloses "A rijndael block encryption apparatus having M-bit input data and N-bit input keys" (page 1, column 2, paragraph 0010, "an apparatus for encrypting/decrypting a real-time input stream" "by constructing Rijndael algorithm selected as AES algorithm with hardware". With respect to the limitations of input data and input keys, in Fig. 1 Data_in [7:0] appears to be the input data and Key_data [128,192,256] appear to be the inputs keys) "and encrypting the M-bit input data by repeating for a predetermined number of times a round operation for encryption" (page 3, column 1, paragraph 0043, with respect to this limitation, Yang discloses "if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 256 bits, a count of rounds becomes '14'" "if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 128 bits, a count of rounds becomes '10'") "that includes transforms of shift_row, substitution, mixcolumn and add-round-key" (Fig. 4 discloses "Shifter (Shift_row)", "Data conversion unit (Byte_sub)", "Mixer (Mix_colm)", and "Key mixer (Add_round_key)) "or decrypting the M-bit input data by repeating for a predetermined number of times a round operation" (page 3, column 1, paragraph 0043, with respect to this limitation, Yang discloses "decrypting" by "finding the key for encryption or decryption". Yang also discloses "if the block size is 128bits and a size of the key value is 256 bits, a count of rounds becomes '14'" "if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 128 bits, a count of rounds becomes

Art Unit: 4148

‘10’”) “for decryption that includes transforms of inverse shift_row, inverse substitution, add-round-key and inverse mixcolumn” (page 3, column 1, paragraph 0043, with respect to this limitation, Yang discloses “decrypting” by “finding the key for encryption or decryption”).

Yang also discloses “if the block size is 128bits and a size of the key value is 256 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘14’” “if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 128 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘10’”) “the apparatus comprising: a round operation unit including a round operation execution unit for processing the data at least in the transforms of substitution, mixcolumn and add-round-key in an encryption mode” (Fig. 4, the block round unit serves the same function as round operation unit. It includes at least substitution which in instant application “data conversion unit(byte_sub)”, mixcolumn which in instant application “mixer”, and add-round-key which in instant application “key mixer”) “and for processing the data at least in the transforms of inverse substitution, add-round-key and inverse mixcolumn in a decryption mode” (Fig. 5, the block round unit includes at least inverse substitution which in instant application “data conversion unit(I_byte_sub)”, add-round-key which in instant application “key mixer”, and mixcolumn which in instant application “inverse mixer”) “and a round key generation unit for generating round keys in order to provide the round keys in the transform of add-round-key; a round operation control unit for controlling the round operation performed by the round operation unit” (page 1, paragraph 0013, “a key schedule unit carrying out a key schedule every round in accordance with a size and a key value of a block inputted from outside so as to output a key value for the encryption or decryption each round”); “and a data storage unit for storing M-bit data

Art Unit: 4148

generated at an end stage of every round” (page 4, column 1, paragraph 0057, “an output buffer 603 receiving the encrypted or decrypted data Out_block[127:0]”).

Yang fails to disclose “processing the data in the unit of M/m bits (where m is 2, 3 or 4)” “round operation unit processing data both in encryption mode and decryption mode”, and “data storage unit for storing M/n-bit intermediate data generated by the round operation unit at an intermediate stage of every round”.

However, Roussel discloses “processing the data in the unit of M/m bits” (column 12, line 1-9, “processing 128-bit instructions using existing 64-bit hardware systems without significant changes to the hardware”) “Where m is 2, 3 or 4” (column 11, line 23-48, “although the above embodiment describes the macro instruction being divided into two micro operations, alternate embodiments may divide the macro instruction into more micro instruction”) “round operation unit processing data both in encryption mode and decryption mode” (in Fig. 1, the encryption/decryption unit which includes block round unit serves round operation function. the input line Encrypt_en controls mode switch either to encryption mode or decryption mode), and “data storage unit for storing M/n-bit intermediate data generated by the round operation unit at an intermediate stage of every round” (Fig. 4, a register is an intermediate storage unit, therefore, data conversion unit, shifter, mixer, key mixer are registers. Four of the registers process the input data at the same time stores data temporarily).

Yang and Roussel are analogous art because both arts focus on the goal of reusing the existing hardware resource to reduce the size and cost of the hardware when come to design circuits.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to apply the Rijndael block cipher algorithm that encrypt/decrypt information on a hardware-critical environment to process 128-bit instruction application using 64-bit hardware system teaching of Yang by adopting the concept "staggering execution of a single packed data instruction using the same circuit" from Roussel to utilize the existing hardware resource, reduce the size and cost of hardware.

As per **claim 6**, Yang discloses "The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the round operation execution unit comprises:" (page 3, paragraph 0048, paragraph 0053, "Fig. 4 illustrates a detailed block diagram of an encryption unit of the block round unit 203 in Fig. 2 and Fig. 5 illustrates a detailed block diagram of a decryption unit 500 of the block round unit in Fig. 2" and "if the decryption is being carried out, the encryption in Fig. 4 is carried out is in reverse") "a shift/inverse-shift_row operation means for performing the shift_row operation and the inverse shift_row operation of the data;" (Fig. 4, Fig. 5, "shifter(shift_row)" in Fig. 4 and "Inverse shift(I_shift_row)" in Fig. 5) "a substitution/inverse-substitution operation means for performing the substitution operation and the inverse substitution operation of the data" (Fig. 4, Fig. 5, "Data conversion unit (byte_sub)" in Fig. 4 and "data conversion unit (I_byte_sub)" in Fig. 5) "a mixcolumn/inverse-mixcolumn operation means for performing the mixcolumn operation and the inverse mixcolumn operation of the data" (Fig. 4, Fig. 5, "Mixer(Mix_colm)" in Fig. 4, and "Inverse mixer(I_mix_colm)" in Fig. 5) "and an add-round-key operation means for performing the add-round-key operation of the data" (Fig. 4 and Fig. 5, "Key Mixer(Add_round_key)" in Fig. 4 and "Key mixer (Add_round_key)" in Fig. 5)

As per **claim 7**, Yang discloses “the apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the round operation execution unit farther comprises a plurality of demultiplexing means for controlling a flow of the data among the substitution/inverse-substitution operation means, the mixcolumn/inverse-mixcolumn operation means and the add-round-key operation means so as to perform the round operation for the encryption or the round operation for the decryption according to an input of a mode signal that indicates the encryption or decryption mode” (Fig. 1 or Fig. 2, paragraph 0036, “signals inputted to the block round unit 203 include wsel[1:0] informing a size of a key value, Encrypt_en signal informing whether to be encrypt or decrypt”).

As per **claim 8**, Yang discloses “the apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 5 to 7, wherein the data storage unit includes at least one register, and a total summed size of the register is equal to or larger than $M(2^m-1)/m$ bits” (Fig. 5 and Fig. 6, registers are intermediate storage units, therefore, there are four registers in Fig. 5 of total 508 bits - 127 bit multiplies 4, plus the “out_buffer” storage in Fig. 6 of 127 bit. The total summed sized of the register is 635 bit. As applicant states in claim 1 “where m is 2, 3, or 4”, if m is 2, M the input data in Yang is 127 bit, then $M(2^m-1)/m$ is $127(2^2-1)/2$ that equals 190.5 bits. The total summed sized of the registers in Yang of 635 bit is large than the 190.5 bit).

As per **claim 9**, Yang discloses “A rijndael block encryption method for receiving M-bit input data and N-bit input keys and performing a round operation of the input data for a predetermined number of times, the method comprising:” (page 1, column 2, paragraph 0010, “an apparatus for encrypting/decrypting a real-time input stream” “by constructing Rijndael algorithm selected as AES algorithm with hardware”. With respect to the limitations of

Art Unit: 4148

input data and input keys, in Fig. 1 Data_in [7:0] appears to be the input data and Key_data [128,192,256] appear to be the inputs keys. On page 3, column 1, paragraph 0043, with respect to predetermined number of times, Yang also discloses “if the block size is 128bits and a size of the key value is 256 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘14’” “if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 128 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘10’”) “a round operation step of performing a round operation with respect to all m data of M/n bits” (page 3, column 1, paragraph 0043, Yang discloses “if the block size is 128bits and a size of the key value is 256 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘14’” “if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 128 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘10’”. It shows the relation between the number of round for performing round operation and the input data size in Rijndael cipher in the above paragraph; therefore, a round operation stop with respect to input data ‘M’ bit or ‘M/n’ bit (if M/n equals to M. The claim indicates m data belong to M/n, then a round operation stop with respect to all m as well.) “The round operation including sub-steps of a shift_row transform for performing a shift_row of the M-bit data from a previous round” (Fig. 2, and Fig. 4, “the block round unit” in Fig. 2 includes a “shifter (Shift_row)” in Fig. 4 to perform a shift_row of 128 bits [127:0] input data from previous round and outputting data to next transform) “a substitution transform for performing a substitution data, a mixcolumn transform for performing a mixcolumn of data” (Fig. 4, “Data conversion unit (Byte_sub)” to perform a substitution data, “Mixer (Mix_colm)” to perform a mixcolumn data) “and an add-round-key transform for performing an addition of round” (it is a known for one skilled in the art at the invention time that to repeating either one specific or plurality additional transform steps when to perform a round operation in Rijndael block cipher system during the encryption

Art Unit: 4148

transformation) “and a round key generation step of generating the round keys in order to provide the round keys at the sub-step of the add-round-key transform” (Fig. 2, and page 3, paragraph 0039-0047, “the Key schedule unit”[reference number 202 in Fig. 2] “find a key for encrypting or decrypting each round so as to output the found key to the block round unit 203”).

Yang fails to disclose “a shift_row transform outputting only M/m-bit (where m is 2, 3 and 4) data corresponding to a selection signal to a next step”, “a substitution transform performing of the M/m-bit data and mixcolumn transform performing of the M/m-bit data” and “keys having the same size to the M/m-bit data”.

However, Roussel discloses “outputting only M/m-bit (where m is 2, 3 and 4) data corresponding to a selection signal to a next step” (column 7, line 53-63, “execution units 130 and 140 generate output data as two half width data segments”. “Two half width data segments” means the width of input data M divided by 2 where m is 2. “Low order data is output at an OUTLO terminal. High order data is output one clock cycle later at an OUTHI terminal. The low and high order output data propagate through separate drivers 330 and 340 to the low and high local bypass buses 310 and 320 respectively” serves the function of “selection signal to a next step”). Roussel also discloses “a substitution transform performing of the M/m-bit data and mixcolumn transform performing of the M/m-bit data” and “keys having the same size to the M/m-bit data” ” (these two limitations limit same thing which is to divide the width of the input data to sub sets to reduce the size hardware. With respect to this limitation, Roussel discloses “processing 128-bit instructions using existing 64-bit hardware systems without significant changes to the hardware” (column 12, line 1-9)).

Yang and Roussel are analogous art because both arts focus on the goal of reusing the existing hardware resource to reduce the size and cost of the hardware when come to design circuits.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to apply the Rijndael block cipher algorithm that encrypt/decrypt information on a hardware-critical environment to process 128-bit instruction application using 64-bit hardware system teaching of Yang by adopting the concept "staggering execution of a single packed data instruction using the same circuit" from Roussel to utilize the existing hardware resource, reduce the size and cost of hardware.

As per **claim 10**, Yang in view of Roussel disclose claim 9 and "wherein the data can be processed through the steps of the shift_row transform, the substitution transform, the mixcolumn transform and the add-round-key transform, respectively" (see Yang, Fig. 4 discloses Shift (Shift_row), Data conversion unit (Byte_sub), Mixer (Mix_colm), and Key Mixer (Add_round_key)) "the data having the size of M/m bits" (see Roussel, column 12, line 1-9, "processing 128-bit instructions using existing 64-bit hardware systems without significant changes to the hardware) and "a plurality of the M/m-bit data can be processed through the plural steps selected among the four steps at the same time according to a predetermined timing" (Fig. 4A and Fig. 4B, Fig. 4A discloses a plurality of the input data "M" with the width of 128 bits is divided by two of the 64 bits data after ports 1-3. Fig. 4B shows that at same time T, plural steps, to be exact two steps, have been processed. Four steps have been processed at time T+1 etc.)

As per **claim 11**, Yang discloses “A rijndael block decryption method for receiving M-bit input data and N-bit input keys and performing a round operation of the input data for a predetermined number of times, the method comprising:” (page 1, column 2, paragraph 0010, “an apparatus for encrypting/decrypting a real-time input stream” “by constructing Rijndael algorithm selected as AES algorithm with hardware”. With respect to the limitations of input data and input keys, in Fig. 1 Data_in [7:0] appears to be the input data and Key_data [128,192,256] appear to be the inputs keys. Page 3, column 1, paragraph 0043, with respect to the limitation “predetermined number of times”, Yang discloses “if the block size is 128bits and a size of the key value is 256 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘14’” “if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 128 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘10’”) “A round operation step of performing a round operation with respect to all m data of M/n bits” (page 3, column 1, paragraph 0043, Yang discloses “if the block size is 128bits and a size of the key value is 256 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘14’” “if the block size is 128 bits and a size of the key value is 128 bits, a count of rounds becomes ‘10’”. It shows the relation between the number of round for performing round operation and the input data size in Rijndael cipher in the above paragraph; therefore, a round operation stop with respect to input data ‘M’ bit or ‘M/n’ bit (if M/n equals to M. The claim indicates m data belong to M/n, then a round operation stop with respect to all m as well.) “the round operation including sub-steps of an inverse shift_row transform for performing an inverse shift_row of the M-bit data from a previous round and outputting data” (Fig. 5, “Inverse shifter (I_shift_row)to perform an inverse shift row of 128 bits [127:0] data and outputting to next transform) “an inverse substitution transform for performing an inverse substitution inverse-shift_row-transformed data” (Fig. 5, Data

Art Unit: 4148

conversion unit (I_byte_sub) to perform an inverse substitute on the output data of Inverse shifter (I_shift_row)) “an add-round-key transform for performing an addition of round keys having the same size to inverse-substitution-transformed data, respectively, “ (Fig. 5, Key mixer (Add_round_key) to perform a add round key transform. Fig. 5 discloses both Add_round_key and I_byte_sub have the same size data of 128 bits [127:0]. The decryption transformation order of I-shift_row, I_byte_sub, and Add_round_key in Fig. 5 respects to the corresponding encryption order in Fig. 4) “and an inverse mixcolumn transform for performing an inverse mixcolumn add-round-key-transformed data” (Fig. 5, Inverse mixer (I_mix_colm) to perform inverse mix column on Add_round_key data) “and a round key generation step of generating the round keys in order to provide the round keys at the sub-step of the add-round-key transform”. (Fig. 2, and page 3, paragraph 0039-0047, “the Key schedule unit”[reference number 202 in Fig. 2] “find a key for encrypting or decrypting each round so as to output the found key to the block round unit 203”).

Yang fails to disclose “an inverse shift_row transform outputting only M/m-bit (where m is 2, 3 and 4) data corresponding to a selection signal to a next step”, “for performing an inverse substitution of the M/m-bit data” “round keys having the same size to the M/m-bit inverse-substitution-transformed data” and “an inverse mixcolumn of the M/m-bit add-round-key-transformed data”.

However, Roussel discloses “outputting only M/m-bit (where m is 2, 3 and 4) data corresponding to a selection signal to a next step” (column 7, line 53-63, “execution units 130 and 140 generate output data as two half width data segments”. “Two half width data segments” means the width of input data M divided by 2 where m is 2. “Low order data is

Art Unit: 4148

output at an OUTLO terminal. High order data is output one clock cycle later at an OUTHI terminal. The low and high order output data propagate through separate drivers 330 and 340 to the low and high local bypass buses 310 and 320 respectively” serves the function of “selection signal to a next step”). Roussel also discloses “for performing an inverse substitution of the M/m-bit data” “round keys having the same size to the M/m-bit inverse-substitution-transformed data” and “an inverse mixcolumn of the M/m-bit add-round-key-transformed data” (these three limitations limit same thing which is to divide the width of the input data to sub sets to reduce the size hardware. With respect to this limitation, Roussel discloses “processing 128-bit instructions using existing 64-bit hardware systems without significant changes to the hardware” (column 12, line 1-9)).

Yang and Roussel are analogous art because both arts focus on the goal of reusing the existing hardware resource to reduce the size and cost of the hardware when come to design circuits.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to apply the Rijndael block cipher algorithm that encrypt/decrypt information on a hardware-critical environment to process 128-bit instruction application using 64-bit hardware system teaching of Yang by adopting the concept "staggering execution of a single packed data instruction using the same circuit" from Roussel to utilize the existing hardware resource, reduce the size and cost of hardware.

As per **claim 12**, Yang in view of Roussel disclose claim 11, and “wherein the data can be processed through the steps of the inverse shift_row transform, the inverse substitution transform, the add-round-key transform and the inverse mixcolumn

Art Unit: 4148

transform, respectively” (see Yang, Fig. 5 discloses transforms of data through “I_shift_row”, “I_byte_sub”, “Add_round_key”, and “I_mix_colm”); “the data having the size of M/m bits” (see Roussel, column 12, line 1-9, “processing 128-bit instructions using existing 64-bit hardware systems without significant changes to the hardware) and “a plurality of the M/m-bit data can be processed through the plural steps selected among the four steps at the same time according to a predetermined timing” (see Roussel, Fig. 4A and Fig. 4B, Fig. 4A discloses a plurality of the input data “M” with the width of 128 bits is divided by two of the 64 bits data after ports 1-3. Fig. 4B shows that at same time T, plural steps, to be exact two steps, have been processed. Four steps have been processed at time T+1 etc.)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JING SIMS whose telephone number is (571)270-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm EST, Mon-Thu.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Thomas Pham can be reached on (572)272-3689. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 4148

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

August 27, 2008

Jing Sims

/J.S./

Examiner, Art Unit 4148

/THOMAS K PHAM/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4148